

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: )  
YASUHITO NIIKURA, et al. ) : Examiner: W. Tsui  
Application No.: 10/536,866 ) : Group Art Unit: 2178  
§ 371(c) Date : May 27, 2005 ) :  
Int'l. Application No.: PCT/JP2005/005444 ) :  
Int'l. Filing Date: March 17, 2005 ) :  
For: DATA PROCESSING ) :  
APPARATUS AND DATA ) :  
PROCESSING METHOD, AND ) :  
COMPUTER PROGRAM : Monday, April 13, 2009

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

Prior to further examination on the merits, a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) having been filed concurrently herewith, and in response to the final Office Action dated December 11, 2008, the period for response to which having been extended to Monday, April 13, 2009 by the accompanying Petition For Extension Of Time with fee, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

CERTIFICATE OF EFS-WEB TRANSMISSION  
I hereby certify that this correspondence is being filed electronically by EFS-Web transmission to the United States Patent Office on:

April 13, 2009  
(Date of Transmission)

Michael J. Guzniczak, Reg. No. 59,820  
(Name of Attorney for Applicant)

/Michael J. Guzniczak/ April 13, 2009  
Signature Date of Signature